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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST ANNUAL BLACK BUSINESS CONFERENCE THIS THURSDAY

KANKAKEE, IL (June 14, 2022) – The Black Pages of Kankakee County, the City of Kankakee’s Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA), and the Kankakee Public Library are partnering to host the 1st Annual ***Black on Track: Black Business Conference***. This public event for Black business owners and their supporters is being held June 16th, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Kankakee Public Library 4th Floor Auditorium and Gallery.

Attendees to ***Black on Track: Black Business Conference*** will have the opportunity to network with other businesses and business support service providers. In addition, business support services will have booths for sharing service information and hosting break-out information sessions through-out the conference. Business support services and speakers will include:

- Empowered 2 Enlighten, JaHana Holloway
- State Farm Insurance, Vince Clark
- Up Next Credit Services, Brianna Brown
- HustleHer and Legit Trappin Owner, Portia Mittons
- South Schuyler Counseling, William Lacy
- Midland States Bank
- Allies for Community Business

“The intent and purpose of this event is to provide representation, resources, and tools to black-owned businesses. This is necessary for business growth and establishing a healthy business foundation which ultimately helps our community as a whole,” states Courtney Wade, founder of The Black Pages of Kankakee County.

Registration for this event is recommended. Attendees for ***Black on Track: Black Business Conference*** can sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CABA72BA0FAC07-black>.

This event is an official part of Kankakee Juneteenth Celebration Community Council events. A full calendar of local Juneteenth events can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/1865JCCC/>

For more information or to register via phone, please contact ECDA Community Outreach Coordinator Samantha Rocknowski at 815-933-0513 or skrocknowski@citykankakee-il.gov.

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About The Black Pages of Kankakee County:

The Black Pages of Kankakee County is a business directory and entrepreneurial community driven to help Black-owned businesses achieve success in their business endeavors. We work with businesses within Kankakee County through raising awareness of community resources, educational events, and increasing the opportunity for visible representation. We strive to make our directory and network comprehensive to community members looking to purchase from a Black-owned business and Black-owned businesses that are looking to grow.”

You can help by recommending a Black-owned business you know to The Black Pages directory! To refer a business or to join our directory and network, email us at: theblackpages815@gmail.com.

To purchase a copy of The Black Pages directory and for more information, visit our website: www.theblackpages815.com

About the Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA):

The Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is a local government agency whose mission is to improve the lives of Kankakee residents and enhance the economic vitality of communities through housing, economic development and community development. The ECDA administers programs that serve the neighborhoods and residents of the City of Kankakee provided by federal, state and local funding. For more information, contact ECDA at 815-933-0506, Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit our website at <https://ecda.citykankakee-il.gov/>.

About the City of Kankakee, Illinois:

The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at www.citykankakee-il.gov.